RM-10786 & RM-10787

I am in full support of the petitions submitted by No-Code International (RM-10786) and the National Conference of Volunteer Examiner Coordinators (RM-10787) to eliminate the 5 WPM Element 1 Morse code testing requirement.

The current requirement for element 1 Morse code testing has become an outdated and unnecessary element of Amateur Radio. I personally learned Morse code just well enough to pass the 5 WPM element 1 code test and have never used Morse code as a mode of communications as a Technician Plus, General or Amateur Extra. Amateur Radio has many modes of communications that will appeal to a wide variety of Amateur Radio Operators. These modes include Packet, PSK-31, RTTY, SSTV, SSB and many other modes that require no testing.

Because of technological advances, the element 1 Morse code testing has become inconsistent with the goals of the Amateur Radio Service since it provides a barrier to otherwise qualified individuals who wish to experiment and communicate below 30 MHz.

As for myself and most Americans, it is difficult to find the time to study and become proficient in Morse code to pass the element 1 examination with the duties one has with their job, family and other activities. It is much simpler to find time to study the written elements 2, 3 and 4.

I am a volunteer examiner with the ARRL and W5YI (VE-24134) and administer Amateur Radio Examinations each month. I see a much higher level of stress by those taking the element 1 Morse code examination and the Volunteer Examiners administering the examination hoping the testing equipment will function correctly.

Again I support the petitions RM-10786 and RM-10787 for eliminating the Element 1 Morse code test requirement. Please give it your consideration.

Sincerely, Francis M. Sauciunas, KF4TQV